Serial No.: 10/002,634 Docket No.: 355908-2500

## **AMENDMENTS**

## In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph, page 5, as follows:

--Preferably, the aliquot of blood is in addition subjected to mechanical stress. Such mechanical stress includes stress that is that applied to the aliquot of blood by extraction of the blood aliquot through a conventional blood extraction needle, or a substantially equivalent mechanical stress, shortly before the other chosen stressors are applied to the blood aliquot. This mechanical stress may be supplemented by a mechanical stress exerted on the blood aliquot by bubbling gases through it, such as ozone/oxygen mixtures, as described below. Optionally, a temperature stressor may be applied to the blood aliquot, simultaneously or sequentially with the other stressors, i.e. a temperature at, above or below body temperature.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 of the application with the following:

In view of the fact that the process of the invention described above leads to a significant decrease in the expression and/or activity of the inflammatory cytokine IL-6, the invention is particularly indicated for prophylaxis or alleviation of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) in human patients. Whilst the etiology of CFS remains contentious, there is a general consensus that IL-6 plays a role in CFS, either as a result of abnormal levels of IL-6 in the patient or abnormal sensitivity to IL-6 on the part of the patient. See, for example, Gupta S., et.al., et al., J. Psychiatr. Res., 31(1): 149-156, 1997; Cannon J. G. et.al., et al., J. Clin. Immunol. 19(6): 414-421, 1999; and Pall M.L., Med. Hypotheses 54(1):115-25 (2000). Although excessive levels of and/or excessive sensitivity to IL-6 are almost certainly not the only factors controlling CFS in a pateient patient, they are at least a significant contributing factor, and the process and composition of the invention whereby IL-6 is downregulated accordingly shows potential in successful alleviation of this disorder.